REMARKS

In response to the restriction requirement, applicant has elected Group I, claims 1-8, 11, 12, 13b, 15, 16, 20, with traverse for further prosecution at this time.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application and its early allowance. Should the Examiner feel that a telephone conference with the applicant's attorney would expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is urged to contact applicant's attorney at the number indicated below.

> Respectfully submitted, REED SMITH, LLP

May 19, 2004

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